



STATE OF DELAWARE
Child Death, Near Death and Stillbirth Commission

FINAL MINUTES

Meeting Date and Time: February 20, 2015 at 1:00 PM

Meeting Location: Appoquinimink State Service Center in Middletown, DE

In Attendance:

Commissioners:

Ms. Margaret Rose Agostino
Ms. Aleks Casper
Mr. Malcolm Cochran
Dr. Garrett H. C. Colmorgen, Chair
Ms. Mary Ann Crosley
Ms. Tania Culley, Esquire
Dr. Gerard Gallucci
Mr. Mawuna Gardesey
Ms. Marjorie Hershberger
Judge Joelle Hitch
Dr. Vicky Kelly
Ms. Mary Ann Mieczkowski
Ms. Deborah Alioto Miller
Ms. Janice Mink
Ms. Leslie Newman
Cpl. Adrienne Owen
Mr. Michael Price
Ms. Allison Reardon
Dr. Philip Shlossman

Others:

Ms. Rosalie Morales

CDNDSC Staff:

Ms. Anne Pedrick
Ms. Angela Birney
Ms. Courtney Rapone

I. Call to Order

Dr. Garrett H. C. Colmorgen called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM and introductions were made.

II. Old Business

- a. **Minutes.** The general meeting minutes from December 5, 2014, were accepted without change.
- b. **Annual Report.** The Annual Report was approved at the December meeting. The Division of Family Services (DFS) was able to give responses within several days and it was sent to the designer. However, the art designer had a death in the family so the release was delayed. It should be distributed shortly.
- c. **CDR Reviews.**
A work plan was presented by the Executive Director to address the backlog for the Child Death Review Panels. The Executive Director presented the current statistics for all of the Child Death Review Panels.

Drivers of the backlog include the following: staff turnover, lack of a workflow database, not enough supervision, high increases in CAN cases, subpoena process taking approximately two months, and no consistent medical abstraction. To address this backlog the following will occur: FIMR is going to be put on hold for a couple of months and help assist with the back log, OCA has agreed to write five CAPTA reports, and CDNDSC has hired a contractual individual who has prior DFS investigation experience to assist in writing backlog reports. In addition, the Executive Director will be closely monitoring and supervising this backlog with staff. A raw supervision tracking sheet was developed to assist with this supervision until a final database can be developed with OCA. The Executive Director will update the Executive Committee regularly on the status of this backlog. Recently, the CDNDSC attorney gave permission to fax or scan her signed copy of the subpoena to the various medical providers and this will cut down on the lengthy subpoena process time frame. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the backlog and ways to reduce the backlog for the Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Panel.

III. New Business

- a. **Infant Safe Sleeping Community Work.** Due to time constraints, this presentation was deferred to a future meeting.

IV. Updates

- a. **National Child Death Update.**
 - Terri Covington presented at the January Joint Commissions meeting. She has offered to work with the CAN Panel to assist in streamlining the review process.
 - The Sudden Unexpected Death Data Enhancement and Awareness Act (S.2746/H.R.669) has been signed by the President.
 - The National Child Death Review Center has applied for a grant to join with the National FIMR program. The offices would work as one, and utilize one database, the National Data Tool currently in use by CDNDSC. The grant application process closes at the end of March so more detail will be released at a later date.

- b. **CPAC.** All are aware of the events of the Milligan case and media reports of such, the Children's Department has moved in a responsive and responsible way to deal with the case. Many of the issues discussed in the joint retreat in January were front and center with this case. There have been two lengthy, detailed meetings with CPAC, the Director and Secretary of DSCYF. This case will be discussed more at the next CPAC meeting.
- c. **DHMIC Update**
- The Annual DHMIC Summit will be April 14th at the Chase Center on the Riverfront in Wilmington. The social context will be on issues of health and safety of women and children. There will be invitation only break-out session on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS).
 - DHMIC continuing initiatives on Infant Safe Sleep
 - Nationally participating in COIIN (The Collaborative Improvement & Innovation Network to Reduce Infant Mortality)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously decided to exit Executive Session.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously decided to adjourn the meeting at 4:09 PM.